



ABOUT THE GFWC-SC ESO READING CLUB

GFWC-SC originally chartered an ESO – Epsilon Sigma Omicron – Club, which means “Enlighten Your Pathway”, in 1952 and we reactivated it in July 2017.

Through your membership (which is only \$2) to our ESO Club – The Girlfriends Book Club – you can read books as a group or on your own. GFWC has a reading list 25 pages long and is separated by category such as Fiction, Non-Fiction, History, Health & Medicine – This list will challenge you to step out of your comfort zone and read something different. All of GFWC’s ESO information can be found on the gfwc.org website – including the reading list.

Now our Girlfriends Book Club has its own reading list. This list started with authors who are from South Carolina and the surrounding states. Then when someone suggests a book it is added to the list and then updated on our GFWC-SC.org website under Education. We have several members across the state and share recommendations on our Face Book page.

To become a member you just have to complete the application and Pledge form and you will become a full member after you have read 16 books (from either reading list) and completed a very brief book report – we just want to know what you read and if you would recommend it – super easy. The more you read the higher the level in ESO you will go! ESO is fun and educational and I hope you will consider joining and, yes you can go through the list and count books you have previously read! For more information, contact the GFWC-SC ESO Chairman Melanie Matthews at melanie@pestfreesc.com , or by cell phone/text 803 543-4388.

How to Become a GFWC-SC ESO Member

Step 1:

Individuals complete the GFWC-SC ESO Pledge Application and return to one of the GFWC-SC ESO Co-Chairmen Melanie Matthews, 2442 Wheat St., Columbia, SC 29205 melanie@pestfreesc.com or Carol Berenbrok, 125 Govenor’s Grant Blvd, Lexington, SC 29072 lexotr@windstream.net . Enclose dues of \$2 made out to GFWC-SC and note in the memo section of your check “GFWC-SC ESO Dues”. Dues will be used to purchase the ESO Certificates from the GFWC Marketplace.

Step 2:

Before becoming a member of the GFWC-SC ESO, interested members must first pass through the ESO pledge stage. A pledge qualifies for membership at her own pace, finishing in a few weeks or working slowly through a longer period of time. After proper completion of 16 books, the pledge receives a certificate verifying her GFWC-SC ESO Membership.

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

GFWC-SC ESO members are encouraged to participate in club programs such as:

- Reading
- Participating in reading/study/discussion groups
- Working to achieve higher ESO levels
- Continuing to pursue self-improvement through personal study

Reading is the main responsibility of a member. Once you finish a book, you are required to complete a “book report”. The GFWC-SC ESO Book Report Form is used by members to express their opinions of the books they read. The form is used by the chairman to keep track of each member’s levels, which are based on the number of books they read. The report form must be completed by each member once she has completed one category (four books) and sent to the chairman. The forms will not be returned. The chairman will issue certificates and awards based on the report forms received.

GFWC-SC ESO LEVELS

Clubwomen move to a new ESO level by completing a set of reading list requirements. The reading list is divided into subject categories, plus the addition of South Carolina Authors and surrounding Regional Authors. To complete a category, a member must read and report on four (4) books from that category.

- **GFWC-SC ESO Levels**

- Pledge: A Pledge has obtained an enrollment application and has started to fulfill the reading requirements.
- Member: A Member has completed four books from four different categories, for a total of 16 books. She is then eligible to wear the ESO pin and receive a membership certificate.
- Star Level: A Star level member has completed four books from ten different categories, for a total of 40 books. She will then receive a Star level membership certificate.
- Torch Level: A Torch level member has completed four books from 16 different categories for a total of 64 books read. She is then eligible to wear the ESO Torch Guard and receive the Torch level membership certificate.
- Century Level: A Century Award member has completed 100 books. She can continue to the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Century Award levels and will be eligible to receive the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and/or sixth century membership certificates.
- Diamond Award: A Diamond Award member has completed 1,000 books. She will be eligible to receive a Diamond Award certificate.

- **GFWC-SC ESO Awards**

As members move up in ESO levels, they are eligible for a variety of pins and certificates. Our GFWC-SC ESO State Chairman will be responsible for tracking the ESO levels of our members. GFWC-SC will present ESO certificates. ESO pins are available in the GFWC Marketplace and members are eligible to order pins once they have received the certificates that validate their ESO level. National ESO awards to recognize outstanding promotion of ESO and outstanding participation in ESO will be awarded annually to one State Federation in each membership category. The winners will be chosen by the GFWC Education Chairman and based on ESO information found in the GFWC Statistical Forms and State Award Entries.

GFWC 2022-2024 ESO Book Club Facebook Page

Participate in the online GFWC ESO reading book club. The online reading book club has selected one book per month from various categories. Search for the Facebook page: GFWC 2022-2024 ESO Book Club. It is a private Facebook page for GFWC members only. If you would like to be added to this Facebook group, Melanie can invite you. Just email Melanie or Carol at the email addresses above or send them a message via Facebook messenger. The group discusses the GFWC book of the month, and shares book recommendations, virtual author events, and more.

GFWC-SC Girlfriends Book Club on Facebook

We have a state specific Facebook page where we can share information about authors, books, and events.